

Message Text

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14

ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 PA-02

INR-07 INRE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /051 W

----- 115826

O 210945Z SEP 76 ZFF-6

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 27236

FOR BROWN (S/PRS) FROM EAGLEBURGER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON THE BINDER ARTICLE ON AMB. SILBERMAN

1. PRESS SPOKESMAN SHOULD VOLUNTEER REPEAT VOLUNTEER

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE BINDER ARTICLE TODAY:

2. BEGIN TEXT: WE HAVE SEEN THE ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK

TIMES OF SUNDAY ABOUT AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN, AND HAVE THE

FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

A. FIRST, WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, AND REPEAT HERE AGAIN,
THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE FULL
CONFIDENCE IN AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN.

B. SECOND, THE YUGOSLAV DESK OFFICER WAS NOT REPEAT
NOT REASSIGNED AT AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN'S REQUEST. THE
AMBASSADOR NEVER REQUESTED THE DESK OFFICER'S REMOVAL.
RATHER, HE WAS REASSIGNED AS THE RESULT OF A NORMAL PERSONNEL
ACTION.

C. THIRD, ANY IMPLICATION THAT AMBASSADOR
SILBERMAN MENTIONED MR. TOTH IN A SPEECH HE HAVE IN
BLED, YUGOSLAVIA KNOWING THAT THE YUGOSLAVS WOULD
SOON REALEASE MR. TOTH IS TOTALLY WRONG. THE AMBASSADOR
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KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE YUGOSALV INTENTION TO RELEASE

TOTH WHEN HE SPOKE. IN FACT, THE AMBASSADOR HAD WARNED
THE YUGOSLAVS SEVERAL DAYS IN ADVANCE OF HIS SPEECH
THAT HE WOULD MENTION THE TOTH CASE IN BLED.

D. FOURTH, THE SECRETARY NEVER REPEAT
NEVER SENT AN "ADVISORY MESSAGE" TO AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN
ASKING HIM NOT REPEAT NOT TO PROVOKE NEW ALTERCATIONS WITH
THE YUGOSLAVS.

E. FIFTH, NEITHER A REPRIMAND NOR A REQUEST
FOR AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN'S RESIGNATION WAS EVER CONSIDERED
AT ANY POLICY LEVEL IN THE DEPARTMENT. END TEXT

3. IF ASKED, DID THE SECRETARY INSTRUCT DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS
NOT REPEAT NOT TO TALK ABOUT THE ISSUE WITH THE PRESS?
ANSWER: YES.

4. IF ASKED, DID ROBINSON, EAGLEBURGER, OR HARTMEN EVER
CONSIDER EITHER A REPRIMAND OR REQUEST FOR RESIGNATION?
ANSWER?OUR STATEMENT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. KISSINGER

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